

Deputy Executive Director, a distinguished leader in health care and anesthesia care in his own right, and for the past decade has run a successful anesthesia care practice in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, the people of San Antonio are happy to welcome the AANA Fall Assembly of States during this time of change and growth in this important health professionals' association. I congratulate Mr. Garde on his life's work, and Mr. Beutler on his task ahead, and wish them and their fellow CRNAs from around the country a successful and enjoyable assembly in the shadow of our historic Alamo.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONSERVATION SECURITY ACT

HON. DAVID MINGE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. MINGE. Mr. Speaker, today, I along with twenty four House Members, introduced the Conservation Security Act. We believe now is the time for Congress to make conservation a cornerstone of the next Farm Bill. And promoting fiscally sound, environmentally friendly conservation farm policy will result in win-win situations for farmers, for the environment and for the American taxpayer.

This legislation will allow for conservation to become an integral part of agriculture by providing opportunities for all interested farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural producers to participate in a voluntary, incentive-based federal conservation program. Landowners and operators would enter into Conservation Security Contracts and Plans and receive payments based on the type of conservation practices they are willing to undertake, plan, implement and maintain. For instance, conservation practices can, range from soil and residue management, contour farming, and cover cropping to comprehensive farm plans that take into account all the resource concerns of the agricultural operation.

The Conservation Security Act will establish three tiers of voluntary conservation practices, plans and payment levels while allowing for continued participation in other agriculture conservation programs. A participant may also receive payments based on established practices and for adopting innovative practices and systems, pilot testing, new technologies, and new conservation techniques. Participation would be voluntary and would enable farmers to implement plans they believe in without sacrificing income that they might go broke, while helping to preserve diversified, low-input, family size farming and ranching operations.

The Conservation Security Act will benefit the environment and augment on-farm income. And I think a majority would agree that the issues of conservation, land stewardship and farm and ranch income are highly important to the public.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. BARRY
HARDING

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Superintendent Barry Harding of Robeson County in the great state of North Carolina. Dr. Harding was recently named National Indian Educator of the Year by the National Indian Education Association. Dr. Harding, a former teacher, coach, principal, associate superintendent, and special assistant to the superintendent, is the second Lumbee Indian in the association's history to receive this award. This high honor was bestowed upon him in recognition of his major contributions to improving educational opportunity and quality for the children of Robeson County.

When I think of Dr. Harding's commitment to education, the words "spirit, sacrifice, and service" come to mind. Dr. Harding's positive spirit has always been to do the task at hand—a spirit that inspires students to achieve. His sacrifice in time and commitment has been to make Robeson County a better place for children to learn and live.

Pearl S. Buck once said, "To serve is beautiful, but only if it is done with joy and a whole heart and free mind." There is no question that Dr. Harding's twenty-six years of service have been the epitome of this statement. Service to our children, the citizens of tomorrow, has been the embodiment of his life.

Nearly half of the 24,000 students in the Robeson County school district are American Indian, and Dr. Harding represents one of the voices that have spoken out to help improve the education of Native Americans—an education that recognizes, not denies, heritage and culture. Like Dr. Dean Chavers, the Lumbee educator born and reared in Pembroke, North Carolina, who went on to receive his Ph.D. from Stanford University and raise money for Native American scholarship funds, Dr. Harding has fought to make Indian education part of the national education agenda.

John F. Kennedy once said, "Let us think of education as the means of developing our greatest abilities, because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation."

Dr. Harding has chosen to dedicate his life to inspiring and educating America's children. He has helped our children and our youth develop their greatest abilities, and in doing so, he serves as a reservoir of strength for our community, state, and nation. Dr. Harding, may God's strength, joy, and peace be with you and your family as you continue your service and commitment to our children.

IN RECOGNITION OF RALPH
RAYMOND

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ralph Raymond, the coach of the gold-winning U.S. Women's softball team.

Coach Raymond is from my hometown of Worcester, Massachusetts, and I know that our entire community is proud of his wonderful accomplishments.

All of us watched with pride last month as our softball team overcame tremendous odds in Sydney to take the gold medal. And they didn't just win—they won with class, style and pure enjoyment of the game. They showed great team spirit and a commendable commitment to hard work. All of those attributes speak volumes about Coach Raymond.

As Coach Raymond has noted, nearly 1 million women are playing fast-pitch softball in high schools and colleges across the country. Softball has provided great opportunities for girls to stay physically fit and enjoy the benefits of sports at an early age—benefits like teamwork, camaraderie, and accepting both victory and defeat with humility and grace.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Coach Ralph Raymond for a job very well done, and I hope we can convince him to coach our softball team in Athens in 2004. I hope all my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to one of Worcester's finest sportsmen.

REVEREND CHARLES J. BEIRNE,
S.J., APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF
LE MOYNE COLLEGE

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, 2000, the Reverend Charles J. Beirne was named the 11th President of Le Moyne College in Syracuse, New York. Le Moyne College, a private four-year Jesuit college, has an enrollment of approximately 2,000 full-time undergraduate students in programs of liberal arts, the sciences and pre-professional studies. Le Moyne also offers a physician assistant program and graduate programs in education and business administration. Founded in 1946, Le Moyne is the second youngest of the 28 Jesuit colleges in the nation.

Today I would like to recognize Fr. Beirne as his first academic year as President of Le Moyne College commences. Fr. Beirne brings impeccable academic credentials, remarkable life experiences and an enthusiastic attitude to an institution just reaching its stride of academic excellence.

Previously, Fr. Beirne served in San Salvador as the academic Vice President at the Universidad Centroamericana. There he bravely replaced his comrade, Rev. Ignacio Martin Baro, S.J., who was murdered by the Salvadoran government forces. In addition, Fr. Beirne was academic Vice President at Santa Clara University, an Associate Dean at Georgetown University Business School in Washington, DC, and Principal at Regis High School in New York City and Colegio San Ignacio in Puerto Rico.

Most recently, Le Moyne College has experienced great strides in its pursuit of academic excellence, receiving national recognition. This past year the US World and News Report ranked Le Moyne College sixth among all liberal arts colleges and universities in the North.

I am pleased to commend Rev. Charles J. Beirne for his years of service to all people and to congratulate him on his appointment as President of Le Moyne College.